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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Please Break Up Microsoft

As an Engineer living in 'Silicon Valley', I am well acquainted with the current state of software technology, Microsoft's product line and it's position in the Market, as well as competitive consumer software packages.

My problem is that Microsoft's software has gotten progressively worse over time while their aggressive marketing tactics have become increasingly invasive into private lives.

To me, major issues include, but are not limited to, the following

(1) Microsoft is endlessly bundling ancillary software packages with Windows which destroys competition because of the competitive advantage of the Windows bundling.

Regardless of the Microsoft quality, and it is generally less than competition's full-featured product, the competition is at a disadvantage and a potentially superior product cannot be competitive.

(2) It appears that Microsoft's own Windows software code is so massive that they are creating more bugs than they are fixing because of their endless integration of other programs into Windows. I believe that these other 'accessory' programs would function faster & more effectively if they were completely separate software packages, interfacing to Windows in exactly the same manner of the competition.

To restate this, I believe that Microsoft's policy of direct integration into Windows, rather than producing a superior product, has resulted in an inferior product because they are able to sidestep the software rules they would have others follow.

(3) Microsoft's PASSPORT/.WEB initiative is being marketed so aggressively that now Microsoft customers are forced to sign up with PASSPORT in order to get Customer Service.

Again, if you are not signed up for PASSPORT, then you do not get customer support on any Microsoft product. Since I do not want to put personal information into Microsoft's PASSPORT program, I may get no customer support.

I do not want Microsoft given the power to drive internet eBusiness.

As a knowledgeable consumer and voter, I am seriously concerned that Microsoft's business practices have not changed since the recent anti-trust actions. As history shows, Microsoft's market approach is to bully both the competition and consumers by virtue of their market power. Again, this is not in the best interests of the American public and I am very disappointed in the current Administration's efforts and consider them a step backwards.

Because of the above issues, and many others, I want Microsoft broken up into at least 3 companies; Operating Systems (Windows), Office Products and Internet Products. The interaction between these different software products and the Windows operating system would then follow the same rules as their competition.

PLEASE support consumers on this and do NOT let Microsoft off the hook.

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